

IV

COMMENCEMENT INVOCATION¹

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, we are grateful that Thou art a God of truth and light. We thank Thee that the founders of this republic were lovers of truth and light, and in the early days did open fountains of knowledge. We thank Thee for all that our institutions of learning have meant to this country. We thank Thee for this particular institution, and for its contribution to the progress in the Southwest.

We pray not only for this group of young men and women, but for all who during these days will be graduating from schools of learning. We pray especially for those who graduate *in absentia*, those whose minds and hearts are turning back to their schools at this season. Grant unto them freedom within that they may help to preserve freedom without.

Father God, we bring before Thy throne of love and mercy that great host of young men and women who serve in the armed forces of our country. Bless them, and keep them: make Thy face to shine upon them, and be gracious unto them: lift up Thy countenance upon them and give them peace.

We pray for those of us who remain at home. Grant unto us the spirit of sacrificial service, that we may not fail Thee or our country in these days of crisis.

We pray in the name of Jesus our Saviour and Lord.
Amen.

¹The Rev. Dr. King.